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	NIRAL INTELLIGENCE REPORT
COUNTRY	Austria DATE: 25X1
SUBJECT	Oil Allocation to Lower Austria DIST. 26 November 1947
25X1	PAGES
ORIGIN	SURPLEMENT 25X1

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1.	Officials of the Ministry of Trade and Reconstruction learned of the oil
.6. 0	transaction on 18 November 1947 from connections in the Federal Chancellery.
2.	The Ministry instructed Orop (Handels A. G. für Erdöl-Produkte Gesterreichischer u. russischer Provenienz) not to release the oil, and Ministerialrat Heinrich Buchas of the Ministry Petroleum Section promised the Chamber of Commerce that 311 metric tons of fuel oil would be released by the Ministry.
3。 25X1 25X1	The Ministry subsequently ordered Orop to release 311 tons rather than the originally planned 750. Comment: The original request, was for 1300 metric tons, 50 to 60 percent of which the Russian
	authorities agreed to release but ordered to be deducted from oil allocations to the western zones. Evidently, the Ministry, not desiring to deprive the western zones of their quota, has reduced the requested allocation for Lower Austria.)
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